



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re the Application of

Hidenori KAWATA

Group Art Unit: 2871

Application No.: 09/922,859

Examiner: Mike Qi

Filed: August 7, 2001

Docket No.: 110097

For: ELECTRO-OPTICAL APPARATUS, ELECTRONIC DEVICE, SUBSTRATE FOR USE  
IN AN ELECTRO-OPTICAL APPARATUS, METHOD OF PRODUCING A  
SUBSTRATE FOR USE IN AN ELECTRO-OPTICAL APPARATUS, AND LIGHT  
SHIELDING FILM

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

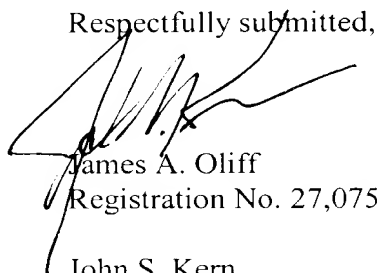
In reply to the July 29, 2003 Election of Species Requirement, Applicant provisionally elects Species I, Figures 1-3, with traverse. At least claims 1-4 and 6-10 read on the elected species.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all species is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one species would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining species. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid

unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JSK/gam

Date: August 20, 2003

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